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January 18, 2022

Ways and Means Committee

Position: Support HB136

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Committee;

I am writing today to voice my support for HB136 - Brynleigh's Act - Seizure Action Plans. I worked in Baltimore City schools and while some training for teachers were in-person, several training sessions were given online annually, such as Blood Borne Pathogen training. I would receive an email that a specific training was due and would be provided with a link to a list, which included this training course and others, along with due dates, and a direct link to each course. If this bill is passed, it is my belief that on a practical level, the school districts would be able to add the online training to an already existing list of other training that staff are required to complete, along with a link to the American Epilepsy Foundation training.

Currently, my organization, Education Team Allies, works to support families across the state of Maryland. Within the last week I had a conversation with a family that is trying to understand why their son experienced his first seizure. He has no history of any type of seizure disorder. His seizure happened at home only because he was home for a snow day. The staff at his school need to be prepared if such an event were to occur there.



When I worked in Baltimore City Schools, we had a medical technician that was supervised by a nurse who oversaw around 5 different schools. This is similar to the way staffing occurs across our state and would have been the case at this child's school. Providing this training to **only** school nurses will not ensure that trained personnel will be at the school when these protocols are needed.

As someone who has taken the time to take this training it was quick and informative and something I believe every school staff should actively participate in as it can save lives. I am confident you will move this bill forward to ensure the safety of every child in the state of Maryland.

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Nolan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Beth Nolan, MAT

Education Team Allies, Co-Founder and Principal

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